

Iowa Petroleum Update

January 8, 2004

Propane

As of January 5, 2004, the DNR survey indicated the average retail price of propane in Iowa was \$1.04/gallon, down \$0.01 from the previous week and 15.6 percent above the retail price of propane at this time last year. (DNR survey)

The January 7, 2004 wholesale price of propane was \$0.71/gallon, up \$0.04 from last week and 30.8 percent above the price of propane at this time last year. (NYMEX Posting)

As of January 2, 2004, **Midwest propane inventory** was at 21.5 million barrels, 0.3 million barrels (1.5 percent) lower than the previous week and 14.7 percent higher than last year's level at this time. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

By January 2, 2004, **U.S. propane inventory** stood at 50.0 million barrels, 2.4 million barrels (4.6 percent) lower than the previous week and 1.4 percent lower than the same week last year. U.S. propane inventory is in the normal range for this time of year. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

Heating Oil and Distillate

The DNR survey completed on January 5, 2004 indicated that heating oil was at \$1.15/gallon, up \$0.01 from the previous week and 1.8 percent above the price of heating oil at this time last year. (DNR survey)

The January 7, 2004 wholesale cost of heating oil was \$0.95/gallon, 0.05 high then last week and 14.9 percent higher than the wholesale price of heating oil at this time last year. (NYMEX Posting)

On January 2, 2004, **Midwest distillate inventory** was at 32.5 million barrels, up 1.5 million barrels (4.8 percent) from the previous week and 8.7 percent higher than last year's stock level at this time. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

On January 2, 2004, total **U.S. distillate inventory** was 135.5 million barrels, 6.4 million barrels (5.0 percent) higher than last week. U.S. distillate inventory is 4.5 percent above last year's levels at this time, and is in high end of the normal range of distillate stocks for this time of year. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

As of January 2, 2004, refiners utilized 92.7 percent of their 16.8 million barrels per day operating capacity, up 1.0 percentage points from last week. (OPIS DOE Inventory Report)

Natural Gas

On January 7, 2004, natural gas was trading at \$7.02/MMBtu, up \$1.19 (20.4 percent) from the previous week and 37.4 percent higher than the price at this time last year. (NYMEX Posting)

On January 2, 2004, U.S. natural gas stocks in storage totaled 2,567 Bcf, 52 Bcf (2.0 percent) lower than the previous week and 8.3 percent above the five-year average. (EIA Natural Gas Weekly)

The December 31, 2003 natural gas rotary rig count is 966, 1.0 percent higher than last week. The rig count is 36.8 percent higher than last year's levels at this time. (Baker Hughes Rig Count)

Transportation Fuels

According to the DNR's December 15, 2003 Gas Monitors Survey, Iowans paid an average of \$1.42/gallon for self-serve regular unleaded gasoline, down \$0.01 from the previous month. A year ago, the average price was \$1.30. (DNR survey)

The December 15, 2003 Gas Monitors Survey found that the average price of regular unleaded with ethanol was \$1.39/gallon, down \$0.02 from the previous month. A year ago, the average price was \$1.29. The latest data shows ethanol-blended gasoline represents 60.2 percent of all retail gasoline sold in Iowa. (DNR survey)

The January 5, 2004 **Midwest gasoline price** average was \$1.50/gallon for regular self-serve conventional unleaded gasoline, up \$0.07 from last week. A year ago, the average was \$1.41/gallon. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

The January 5, 2004 **U.S. gasoline price** average was \$1.49/gallon for regular self-serve conventional unleaded gasoline, up \$0.04 from last week. A year ago, the average was \$1.41/gallon. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

On January 2, 2004, **Midwest gasoline stocks** were at 54.6 million barrels, 2.5 million barrels (4.8 percent) higher than last week, and 11.0 percent above last year's stock for this week. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

By January 2, 2004, total **U.S. motor gasoline stocks** were at 206.3 million barrels, 2.7 million barrels (1.3 percent) higher than the previous week and 1.7 percent lower than the level for the same week last year. Gasoline stocks are in the normal range for this time of year. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

As of January 2, 2004, U.S. gasoline demand was at 8.7 million barrels per day, 3.3 percent higher than this time last year.

Diesel Fuel

The December 15, 2003 average price of self-serve diesel fuel in Iowa was \$1.50/gallon, down \$0.01 from the previous month. A year ago, the average price was \$1.45. (DNR Survey)

The January 5, 2004 average price of Midwest diesel fuel was \$1.47/gallon, the same as last week. A year ago, the average was \$1.50/gallon. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

As of January 2, 2004, **Midwest diesel stocks** were at 24.5 million barrels, 0.9 million barrels (3.8 percent) higher than last week, and 11.4 percent above last year's level at this time. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

On January 2, 2004, **U.S. diesel stocks** were at 79.9 million barrels, up 3.2 million barrels (4.2 percent) from the previous week and 4.2 percent above the previous year's level at this time. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

Crude Oil

Crude oil finished trading on January 7, 2004 at \$33.63, \$1.08 higher than the previous week. One year ago, crude oil was \$30.58/barrel. (NYMEX Posting)

On January 2, 2004, U.S. crude oil stocks totaled 269.0 million barrels, down 1.7 million barrels (0.6 percent) from last week and 3.5 percent below this time last year. Crude oil stocks are below the average inventory range for this time of year. (EIA This Week in Petroleum)

For more information contact: Energy and Waste Management Bureau, Wallace State Office Bldg., Des Moines, IA 50319. Jennifer Moehlmann, Phone: 515/281-8518, Fax: 515/281-6794, E-mail: Jennifer.Moehlmann@dnr.state.ia.us.